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BOROUGH OF OSSETT

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and Cleansing Superintendent

FOR THE YEAR 1956



OSSETT :  
S. PEACE, PRINTER, MARKET PLACE.



BOROUGH OF OSSETT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Year ended 31st December, 1956

**BOROUGH OF OSSETT.**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1956/57.**

Chairman:

ALDERMAN S. E. BICKLE.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR C. C. HITCH.

Members:

ALDERMAN A. CLARK.

„ J. W. GILL.

„ MRS. G. HANSON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR H. AUDSLEY.

„ MRS. H. CROSSLAND, J.P.

„ G. T. FISHER.

„ A. B. GLOVER.

„ N. LOCKWOOD.

„ G. MOORHOUSE.

„ E. B. NETTLETON, J.P.

„ A. ROBB.

„ H. SMITH.

„ L. R. SMITH.

„ C. P. WILSON.

**Co-opted Members of the Public Health Committee:**

MRS. E. WILBY.

MISS M. GLOVER.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.**

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### **BOROUGH OF OSSETT.**

#### **Medical Officer of Health.**

F. G. E. Hill, D.S.O., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.,  
(retired 31st January, 1957).

J. Lyons, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
(appointed 1st February, 1957).

#### **Deputy Medical Officer of Health.**

Barbara Briggs, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### **Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.**

H. W. Mycock, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H.

#### **Additional Public Health Inspector.**

G. W. Armitage, C.S.I.B.

#### **Public Health Inspectors' Clerk.**

Mrs. M. Wingett.

### **WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL.**

Preventive Medical Services: Health Division 13.

#### **Divisional Medical Officer.**

As above (M.O.H.)

#### **Senior Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.**

Barbara Briggs, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

#### **Assistant County Medical Officers and School Medical Officers**

Irene Hargreaves, M.B., Ch.B.

Marianne H. Witt, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

#### **Medical Officer to Ossett Child Welfare Centre (Part Time).**

J. S. Coad, M.B., B.S.



**Health Visitors and School Nurses.**

Mrs. A. H. Humphries, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Mrs. M. A. Taylor, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Part Time).

Miss D. I. Bartlett, S.R.N.

**Tuberculosis Health Visitor.**

Mrs. A. H. Humphries, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certificate.

**Mental Health Social Worker.**

Miss S. Appleyard.

**Mental Health Home Teacher.**

Mrs. M. E. Towell.

**Home Nurses.**

Mrs. C. Crawford, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. H. Vincent, S.R.N., Q.N.

**Midwives.**

Miss A. L. Bray, S.C.M.

Mrs. M. E. Horner, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss M. A. Short, S.C.M.

**Speech Therapist.**

Miss G. Lawton, L.C.S.T.

**Joint Clerical Staff**—engaged in all constituent districts of the Division, viz.: Horbury, Ossett, Morley and Wakefield R.D.

A. Wright, D.P.A. (Senior Clerk).

K. Schofield, D.P.A.

G. A. Tyrrell.

D. Leach.

C. C. Roberts.

M. A. Ramsden (resigned 30th September, 1956).

Miss M. Halloran.

Miss C. Brennan.

Mrs. M. Kilburn.

Mrs. C. Whitehead.

Miss J. Hollings.

Mrs. C. M. Armstone (commenced 11th October, 1956).

# **LEEDS REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.**

## **Consultant Staff.**

### **Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.**

T. B. Hutton, F.R.C.S.

### **Chest Physician.**

J. K. Scott, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

### **School Ophthalmologist.**

J. V. Kirkwood, M.B., Ch.B.

### **Paediatricians.**

J. D. Pickup, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

M. W. Arthurton, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

### **Orthopaedic Surgeon.**

Miss M. A. Pearson, F.R.C.S.

Windsor House,  
Queen Street,  
Morley.

July, 1957.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Ossett Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1956.

Under the scheme of Divisional Health Administration your Medical Officer of Health is also the Divisional Medical Officer for the West Riding County Council's local health services and has similar functions in the Borough of Morley, the Horbury Urban District and the Rural District of Wakefield. The scheme is designed to produce a closer integration of local authority health services.

The year 1956 was the last complete year of office of my worthy predecessor, Dr. F. G. E. Hill, who retired in January, 1957, after a lifetime of devoted service to public health. As a newcomer, arriving after the end of the year under review, it is not possible for me to comment in detail on the health of the community. My observations, on this first occasion, must necessarily be largely confined to general impressions based on statistical and other information.

The vital statistics, indicate an overall picture of a healthy and prosperous township. In 1956 births exceeded deaths by 51, so repeating the pattern of recent years. The infant mortality rate was low (21.9 per 1,000 births), comparing favourably with the figure of 27.1 for the whole of the West Riding administrative area. Maternal mortality was entirely absent for the eighth successive year, a tribute to the skill and efficiency of local doctors and nurses. Work of this calibre, whether in hospital or hovel, clinic or cottage, surgery or slum, is dependent on the constant and deliberate application of concentrated effort, motivated and inspired by a sense of duty and vocation. Medical work, whether curative or preventive, can never be a simple matter of routine; it requires character and integrity as well as judgment and skill. Our statesmen would do well not to disturb this ethical "drive" by any sacrifice of professional goodwill on the altar of expediency.



There was no undue prevalence in 1956 of the more serious infectious diseases. Poliomyelitis was absent and only four new cases of tuberculosis were notified. Furthermore, the statistics of recent years show a marked reduction in deaths from tuberculosis. The total number of deaths from tuberculosis (all forms) during the five-year period 1952-6 was only **13**, as compared with **23** in the preceding five years.

Tuberculosis is, of course, an infectious disease, but one against which most of us have a high degree of resistance. The most important single factor in maintaining this resistance is a satisfactory state of nutrition. The existence within any community of an underfed, poverty-stricken minority tends therefore to provide a reservoir of infection menacing the whole population. This situation almost certainly existed in this area in pre-war days, but we are now reaping the benefit of over 15 years of economic well-being. It is correspondingly significant that a higher proportion of the new cases now being notified are in elderly persons, and it may well be that the nutritional state of this group of the population is not in general as satisfactory as it might be.

A less pleasing aspect of the vital statistics is revealed in the deaths from cancer of lung, which have numbered 12 over the past three years as compared with 8 in the preceding three years. The recent Medical Research Council Report indicates clearly that the incidence of this disease is encouraged by cigarette smoking and probably also (though to a much lesser degree) by atmospheric pollution. The remedy is obvious—except to the confirmed cigarette addict, who prefers to live in the clouds of his own smoke and finds all sorts of reasons why the elimination of his habit would be dangerous!

My report covers all branches of local authority preventive health services, including those administered by the County Council as well as those of Ossett Corporation. These services are the cheapest, and yet probably the most valuable in the framework of the Welfare State. Money spent on the prevention of illness can hardly be wasted, and is almost negligible in amount compared with the very large sum (over 600 million pounds) spent annually in Britain on the curative medical services. Furthermore, if properly directed, local authority preventive services can and do help to save money as well as lives by reducing the burden on the hospital and allied services. Thus, the provision of adequate and satisfactory housing may often obviate the need for the

institutional care of elderly patients, especially if supported by a comprehensive domiciliary service staffed by Home Nurses, Health Visitors and Home Helps. The old folk much prefer to be cared for in their own homes if at all possible, and the cost to the community of enabling this to be done is usually considerably less than the cost of institutional care. Similarly, over the years, the elimination by local authorities of polluted water supplies has checked the slaughter inflicted by cholera and typhoid. This, added to the relatively inexpensive diphtheria immunisation campaign, has made all but a few infectious diseases hospitals completely redundant. Finally, to borrow an example from the possibilities of the immediate future, a vigorous and courageous implementation of the Clean Air Act would do much to reduce suffering and absenteeism arising from bronchitis and asthma. The complications of these illnesses would tend to be less serious and recurrence less frequent. Cleaner air would also mean less domestic drudgery and less damage to fabrics and buildings; living would be cheaper, easier, brighter, and, of course, healthier.

Confidence in the future of public health is inevitably based on the achievements of the past. Members of this and other local authorities have reason to be proud of their record, and this confidence should not be undermined by excessive budgetary caution. The total cost of all basic essential local government services (including housing) is tiny compared with the combined cost of items such as alcohol, tobacco, television, etc. If, as a community, we can afford this luxury expenditure, then surely we should also be able to afford to invest fully in our future health and happiness. To neglect the latter in favour of the former, is to invite the destruction of our culture and the termination of our civilisation.

May I, in conclusion, thank this Council and its officials for the kind, hospitable and patient manner in which I have been received in the Council Chamber and elsewhere. I also wish to express my appreciation of the loyal help and co-operation so readily and ably given by the Public Health Inspector and his staff and by my Divisional Office Staff.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

JOSEPH LYONS,

Medical Officer of Health.



## SECTION I.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Statistics.

Area: 3,332 acres.

Population—Census 1951: 14,586.

Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population, mid-1956: 14,490.

No. of dwelling houses: 5,009.

Rateable Value: £114,553.

Product of a Penny Rate: £445.

#### Summary of Vital Statistics.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births :				Birthrate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 15.7.
Legitimate	224	117	107	
Illegitimate	4	2	2	
Still Births :				Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births 33.9.
Legitimate	8	6	2	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Deaths	177	89	88	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.2.

#### Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths.

#### Infantile Mortality.

Five infants under the age of twelve months died during 1956, giving an infantile mortality rate of 21.9 per 1,000 births.

The following table gives the cause of death of these infants.

Cause of Death	No. of infants dying in				
	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week	5-52 weeks
Atelectasis ... ..	2	—	—	—	—
Congenital heart disease ... ..	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity ... ..	1	—	—	—	—
Hydrocephalus ... ..	—	—	—	—	1

# CAUSES OF DEATH—OSSETT M.B.

CAUSE OF DEATH		1954			1955			1956		
		Males		Total	Males		Total	Males		Total
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis of respiratory tract	...	3	2	5				0	0	0
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	0	0	0	2	2	4	0	0	0
3. Syphilitic Diseases	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Diphtheria	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infections	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	...	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Measles	...	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
10. Malignant neoplasm—stomach	...	1	2	3	3	4	7	4	1	5
11. Malignant neoplasm—lung and bronchus	...	3	0	3	2	1	3	4	2	6
12. Malignant neoplasm—breast	...	0	2	2	0	5	5	0	5	5
13. Malignant neoplasm—uterus	...	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	8	6	14	8	7	15	4	9	13
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16. Diabetes	...	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	0
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	15	20	35	9	15	24	19	15	34
18. Coronary disease—Angina	...	22	13	35	11	12	23	16	16	32
19. Hypertension with heart disease	...	2	0	2	2	1	3	1	1	2
20. Other Heart Disease	...	12	15	27	10	14	24	10	13	23
21. Other circulatory disease	...	7	6	13	3	0	3	3	4	7
22. Influenza	...	1	3	4	0	2	2	1	1	2
23. Pneumonia	...	3	3	6	6	2	8	0	1	1
24. Bronchitis	...	10	5	15	13	4	17	12	4	16
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	...	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	...	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31. Congenital malformations	...	3	0	3	0	1	1	0	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	5	5	10	6	10	16	6	6	12
33. Motor vehicle accidents	...	1	1	2	2	0	2	2	0	2
34. All other accidents	...	1	2	3	3	2	5	1	1	2
35. Suicide	...	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES		99	90	189	84	88	172	89	88	177

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1956 based on the Registrar-General's figures.

COMPARISON WITH OTHER AREAS.

	Ossett M.B.	Morley M.B.	Horbury U.D.	Wakefield R.D.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Adminis- trative County	England & Wales (Provis- ional Figures)
Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population).	15.7	15.8	15.4	18.6	15.8	16.4	15.7
Death Rates (all per 1,000 estimated home population).							
All causes	12.2	12.6	9.3	9.1	12.6	11.8	11.7
Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	0.10	—	—	0.07	0.07	*
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	—	0.08	—	0.10	0.11	0.11	0.11
Other forms of tuberculosis	—	0.05	—	—	0.01	0.02	0.01
Cancer	2.21	2.13	1.94	1.70	2.05	1.89	2.08
Vascular lesions of nervous systems	2.35	2.38	1.33	0.98	2.05	1.86	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	4.42	4.91	4.13	3.45	4.76	4.47	*
Respiratory disease (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1.52	1.06	0.97	1.03	1.37	1.29	*
Infant Mortality (deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 live births)	21.9	14.4	15.7	22.8	25.9	27.1	23.8
Maternal Mortality (deaths of mothers due to pregnancy or child birth per 1,000 live and still births)	—	—	—	—	0.69	0.52	0.56

\* Figures not available.



# VITAL STATISTICS OVER TEN YEARS — 1947-1956.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate	Tuber- culosis Death Rate	Infectious Diseases Death Rate (excluding tuberculosis)	Cancer Death Rate	No. of cases of		No. of deaths	
								Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Tuber- culosis (all forms)	Cancer of Lung and Bronchus
1947	24.1	13.3	43.0	0.0	0.49	0.21	2.01	28	5	7	*
1948	18.7	11.4	26.0	3.52	0.34	0.14	1.36	50	0	5	*
1949	16.0	13.9	38.0	0.0	0.20	0.14	2.11	38	2	3	*
1950	15.9	14.7	68.0	0.0	0.27	0.0	1.89	11	0	4	4
1951	15.4	16.0	26.9	0.0	0.28	0.14	1.86	5	0	4	3
1952	19.9	14.2	45.3	0.0	0.07	0.0	2.08	7	0	1	2
1953	15.8	12.2	8.7	0.0	0.21	0.07	1.45	15	0	3	3
1954	17.2	13.01	30.43	0.0	0.34	0.14	1.58	3	0	5	3
1955	15.3	12.6	9.3	0.0	0.34	0.14	2.14	0	0	4	3
1956	15.7	12.2	21.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.21	2	0	0	6

\* Figures not available.

## **SECTION II.**

### **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.**

#### **(a) HOSPITALS.**

##### **General Hospital Accommodation.**

There are no hospitals within the Borough of Ossett but the Leeds Regional Hospital Board provides facilities in centres within fairly easy reach of Ossett, viz., Wakefield, Leeds and Dewsbury. Accommodation for general needs would appear to be reasonably adequate but difficulty is often experienced in securing the admission of elderly chronic sick patients.

##### **Isolation Hospitals.**

Effective preventive measures have greatly reduced the demand for isolation hospital accommodation during recent years. The relatively few patients requiring admission from Ossett are usually sent to Snapethorpe Isolation Hospital, Wakefield, but cases of acute poliomyelitis are admitted to Seacroft Hospital, Leeds, to be transferred later (if orthopaedic treatment is required) to Pinderfields Hospital, Wakefield.

##### **Maternity Homes and Hospitals.**

Patients requiring or requesting hospital confinement may be admitted to hospitals in neighbouring towns. Priority is given to abnormal cases, mothers having their first baby and mothers residing in houses unsuitable for domiciliary confinement.

#### **(b) AMBULANCE SERVICE.**

It is the duty of the Local Health Authority, that is the West Riding County Council, to provide Ambulance Services throughout their administrative area of which the area of the Borough of Ossett is part.

This is a service which has been efficiently provided in this area by the County Authority, and is available on responsible call.

#### **(c) LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

The Public Health Laboratory which serves this administrative area is the Laboratory (Medical Research Council of the Ministry of Health) at Wood Street, Wakefield.

All specimens for general examination, submitted by the Medical Staff of the Department, by Medical Practitioners, by Health Authorities and others, may be submitted to this Laboratory. The examinations which are carried out in the Laboratory are chemical, biological and bacteriological.

### SECTION III.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Summary of Notifications received during 1956.

Disease.	Total cases notified (corrected)					
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	39
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	55
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	—
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	—

#### Tuberculosis Services.

A clinic is held daily at the Pinderfields General Hospital, Wakefield. Regular home supervision is carried out by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor. Free milk, bedding, shelters, etc., are provided by the County Council at the discretion of the Divisional Medical Officer if recommended by the Consultant Chest Physician in charge of the Clinic. Close liaison with the Chest Clinic is maintained by the T.B. liaison Nurse who visits the clinic every Tuesday.



The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in Ossett in 1956.

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Totals
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
No. on register on 1st January, 1956	23	15	38	6	12	18	56
No. first notified during 1956	2	1	3	—	1	1	4
No. of cases restored to register	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. of cases entered in register otherwise than by notification	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
No. removed from register during 1956 :							
(a) Died	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Removed from district	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
(c) Recovered	3	3	6	—	2	2	8
No. remaining on Register at 31st December, 1956	22	13	35	6	11	17	52

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1956 are given in detail in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—

## SECTION IV.

### W.R.C.C. PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICE.

#### (a) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

##### **Infant Welfare—**

Croft House, Ossett—Monday 2-4 p.m.  
Thursday 2-4 p.m.

##### **Ante and Post-Natal—**

Croft House, Ossett—Friday 2-4 p.m.  
Relaxation Classes—Wednesdays 2 p.m.

##### **School Clinic—**

Croft House, Ossett—Tuesday 10-12 noon.  
Friday 10-12 noon.  
Minor ailments daily 4—4-30 p.m.

##### **Speech Therapy Clinic—**

Croft House, Ossett—Monday 9.30-12 noon.  
Wednesday 9.30-12 noon.

##### **Ophthalmic Clinic—**

Croft House, Ossett—2nd Monday in each month—  
9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Smallpox Vaccination Diphtheria Immunisation Whooping Cough Immunisation	}	Croft House, Ossett, Infant Welfare Clinic, as required.
--	---	--

#### (b) CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

##### **Ante-natal Services.**

Clinic	Total No. of women who attended	Total Attendances
Croft House, Ossett	93	248

##### **Child Welfare Clinics.**

Clinic	Sessions per month	No. of children who attended		Total Attendances made by children	
		Under 1 yr. of age	2-5 yrs. of age	Under 1 yr. of age	2-5 yrs. of age
Croft House, Ossett	8	165	330	2554	1877

Average attendance per session—46.



## Home Visiting by Health Visitors.

No. of Ante-natal visits:—

First visits      ...      ...      ...      ...      31

Subsequent visits      ...      ...      ...      28

No of Visits to children under 1 year:—

First visits      ...      ...      ...      ...      209

Subsequent visits      ...      ...      ...      711

No. of Visits to children 1-5 years      ...      978

Special Visits      ...      ...      ...      ...      1242

Total Home Visits      ...      3199

## The Care of Premature Infants.

Weight at Birth	No. of Premature Babies		No. Dying	No. surviving 28 days
	Born Alive	Born Dead		
Under 2½ lbs.	2	1	1	1
2½ - 3 lbs.	—	—	—	—
3 - 3½ lbs.	—	2	—	—
3½ - 4 lbs.	4	1	2	2
4 - 4½ lbs.	2	—	—	2
4½ - 5 lbs.	3	—	—	3
5 - 5½ lbs.	6	—	—	6
Total	17	4	3	14

Special equipment, (premature baby cot, oxygen, etc.) is available for use in the home where necessary.

## The Care of Illegitimate Children.

Every effort is made to find a suitable home for the baby either with the mother or with the grandparents.

Special advice about legal adoption is given if this is desired.

The mothers are seen in the home by the Health Visitor and encouraged to attend the Infant Welfare Clinic regularly.

## Provision of Welfare Foods, etc.

Most proprietary brands of milk and other infant foods are sold at the Child Welfare Clinic for the convenience of mothers and special brands of milk are ordered where necessary.

In addition the distribution of cod liver oil, orange juice, vitamin A & D tablets, and National Dried Milk is carried out at the Child Welfare Clinics.

## Provision of Maternity Outfits.

These are provided free to mothers preparing for confinement in their own homes.

## (c) PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

### Home Nursing.

The County Council is responsible for the home nursing service in Ossett, the two whole-time nurses being resident in their own homes.

Cases Attended	No. of individual patients	Total number of visits made
Medical Conditions ...	170	4528
Surgical Conditions ...	60	1048
Tuberculosis ...	10	134
Infectious Disease ...	1	32
Maternity ...	—	—
Total ...	241	5742

### Midwifery.

Three whole-time midwives (resident in their own homes) were employed by the County Council to serve the Borough of Ossett during 1956.

The following table shows the number of Ossett women confined in hospital, private nursing homes, or delivered by midwives and private practitioners in Ossett or elsewhere so far as has been ascertained.

	No.	Percentage
No. delivered in hospital ... ..	142	60.3%
No. delivered in private nursing homes ...	3	1.2%
No. delivered by Midwives ... ..	91	38.5%
No. delivered by Doctors (including the difficult cases met with by midwives in their practice where a doctor had to be sent for to effect delivery) ... ..	—	—
Total (including stillbirths) so far as has been ascertained ... ..	236	100%

During 1956 the practising midwives summoned medical assistance to 19 mothers and 2 infants. Medical aid was sent for on account of the following conditions:—

Mothers		Infants	
Cause	No.	Cause	No.
Malpresentation ... ..	1	Prematurity ...	1
Ruptured Perineum ... ..	12	Other Conditions	1
Prolonged Labour ... ..	1		
Breech Delivery ... ..	1		
Obstetric Shock ... ..	1		
Hypertension ... ..	1		
Retained Placenta ... ..	1		
Other Conditions ... ..	1		
Totals ...	19		2

### Emergency Obstetric Unit.

The “flying squad” attached to Staincliffe General Hospital, Dewsbury, is available for obstetric emergencies occurring within the Borough.

### Analgesia.

All midwives are trained in the administration of gas and air analgesia and provided with the necessary equipment. Analgesia is available to all mothers desiring it subject to satisfactory medical examination by a doctor. 80 women received gas and air analgesia during 1956.



**(d) HEALTH VISITING.**

In pursuance of the National Health Service Act the scope of this service includes home visiting for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of children, and persons, (including adults) suffering from illness, and of expectant and nursing mothers. The Health Visitor also gives advice in the home as to measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

**(e) HOME HELPS.**

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, the County Council provide domestic help for households "where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age."

During 1956, 120 cases were attended by home helps as compared with 128 in the previous year, and the total number of hours worked was 14,564.

Of the 120 cases attended in 1956, Home Helps were provided for the following reasons:—

	Cases	Hours
Maternity ... ..	17	1420
Tuberculosis ... ..	2	172
Aged and Chronic Sick ...	89	11919
Others ... ..	12	1053
Total ...	120	14564

**(f) CARE AND AFTER CARE.**

Special provisions are in operation for the care and after care of patients suffering from Tuberculosis, mental illness or defect, venereal disease and other illnesses.

**(g) MENTAL HEALTH.**

Ossett has the part-time services of a Mental Health Social Worker, who is largely concerned with the care of mentally defective patients under statutory supervision and guardianship, and those patients who, having been discharged from Detention Order in Institution, have elected to receive voluntary supervision at home. She also undertakes pre-care and after-care of patients suffering from mental illness.

The Mental Health Social Worker carries out her duties in close liaison with the Mental Hospitals and Mental Deficiency Institutions, and with those statutory and voluntary bodies concerned with social welfare generally.

Every effort is made to rehabilitate the higher grade defectives, and secure suitable employment for them in local industry and domestic service.

### Summary of Cases at present under Supervision under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

		Under 16 years of age		Over 16 years of age		Total
		Male	Female	Male	Female	
Under Statutory Supervision	...	6	2	3	2	13
Under Guardianship	...	—	—	—	—	—
Under Voluntary Supervision	...	—	—	—	1	1
Attending Occupation Centre	...	5	2	—	—	7
Attending Industry Centre	...	—	—	—	—	—
Parents refused training	...	—	—	—	—	—
Receiving Home Training in Groups from Home Teacher	...	—	—	—	—	—
Receiving Home Training individu- ally from Home Teacher	...	—	—	—	—	—
Patients under Statutory Supervision married during year	...	—	—	—	—	—
Married Defectives under Super- vision	...	—	—	—	—	—
Employed Full-time :						
Statutory Supervision	...	—	—	3	1	4
Voluntary Supervision	...	—	—	—	—	—
Too handicapped to undertake any form of training	...	—	—	—	—	—
Suitably and usefully occupied at home :						
Statutory Supervision	...	—	—	—	1	1
Voluntary Supervision	...	—	—	—	1	1
Awaiting admission to Occupation Centre	...	1	—	—	—	1
Cases in Institutions	...	—	1	8	5	14
Taken to Place of Safety	...	—	—	—	—	—
Awaiting Admission to Institution	...	—	—	—	—	—

### After Care of Mental Patients.

	Male	Female	Total
Number receiving after care following discharge from Mental Hospitals ...	—	1	1



## (h) SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Number of school departments in district ...	11
Number of children in attendance at school at the end of 1956 ... ..	2578
Number of children examined at School during 1956 ... ..	1351

(This figure being made up as follows):—

Entrants ... ..	300
7-8 years group ... ..	241
Last Year Primary ... ..	264
Leavers ... ..	155
Re-examinations ... ..	310
Special Examinations ... ..	81

General physical condition of pupils examined:—

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Entrants ... ..	300	—
7-8 years group ... ..	240	1
Last year primary ... ..	264	—
Leavers ... ..	154	1
No. of defects found to require treatment	221	
No. of defects found requiring to be kept under observation ... ..	255	

## Cleanliness Inspections.

The School Nurse attends every school department at frequent intervals throughout the year to examine the children for uncleanly and verminous conditions. Where such conditions exist, parents are informed and are instructed in the application of an effective remedy. Warnings are issued in cases of non-compliance and statutory action taken where there is persistent default.

School	No. on roll	No. of individuals found to be infested	Percentage of individuals infested
Ossett County Secondary ...	510	26	5.09
Dimple Wells Infants ... ..	93	—	0.0
Holy Trinity Junior Mixed and Infants ... ..	315	6	2.95
Gawthorpe Junior Mixed ... ..	267	21	7.9
Gawthorpe Infants ... ..	119	11	9.1
South Ossett C. of E. ... ..	294	4	1.39
Flushdyke C.P. ... ..	245	9	3.6
Spa St. C.P. ... ..	149	11	7.3
St. Ignatious R.C. ... ..	111	2	1.8
Ossett Grammar ... ..	475	—	0.0

**Minor Ailment Clinic.**

860 attendances were made at the minor ailment clinic during the year.

**Paediatric Clinic.**

Cases are referred to Dr. Pickup at Wakefield General Hospital or to Dr. Arthurton at Dewsbury General Hospital, as required.

**Ophthalmic Clinic.**

Sessions held.	No. of refractions.	Prescribed spectacles.
22	207	58

**Orthopaedic Clinic.**

4 children made 6 attendances during the year. These children attended the clinic held at the Pinderfields Hospital, Wakefield.

**(I) IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.**

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox may be done either at the clinic or by the family doctor.

**Diphtheria Immunisation.**

Number of children in Ossett who completed a full course of diphtheria immunisation in 1956.

Age	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14
Began and completed injections 1956     ...     ...     ...     ...	34	45	32	4
Total = 115.				
Immunised in previous years, re-treated in 1956     ...     ...	—	—	210	61
Total = 271.				

**Whooping Cough Immunisation.**

The Local Health Authority's Scheme operates in this area and treatments under the scheme have been carried out as in previous years from 1952.

Restrictions in the scheme are that the treatment is available only to infants and children up to 4 years of age. A further restriction is that combined treatments, e.g., diphtheria and whooping cough are not recognised for purposes of the scheme.

In view of these restrictions, and in view of the fact that many immunisations are carried out by general medical practitioners outside the County Council Scheme, the figures which we give are far from complete. They do not indicate the full number of children in this area who have received protective inoculations.

Number of children in Ossett who completed a full course of whooping cough immunisation during 1956 under the County Council Scheme:—

Age at final injection	Under 6 m'ths.	6 m'ths. to 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	Total
No. immunised	14	78	26	2	—	120

During the year there were 39 notified cases of whooping cough. None of the children concerned had completed a full course of immunisation.

### **Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.**

Sufficient vaccine was received during the year to immunise 82 children resident within the Borough.

### **Vaccination against Smallpox.**

During the year 53 people were vaccinated against smallpox, 39 of whom were under one year of age.

Additionally 3 people were re-vaccinated.

### **B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.**

This scheme was approved by the Ministry of Health. The immunising vaccine to be used was B.C.G. and the selected age-group was that of children in their fourteenth year. This group was chosen for certain approved reasons, one being the further year in school during which observation and supervision could be kept over the child, and also the desirability of affording protection to adolescents in the early years of their employment in industry and elsewhere. This scheme was put into operation in Ossett in 1955.



Treatments were offered to all children in this age-group in the period under review and acceptance is voluntary.

The following table is a summary of the work carried out in the year:—

School	No. of children offered vaccination	No. of consents	No. of children Mantoux tested	No. with positive reaction	No. with negative reaction	No. receiving vaccination
Ossett County Secondary ...	93	43	40	16	23	23
Ossett Grammar	76	29	27	10	16	16
St. Ignatius	11	4	4	1	3	3
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	180	76	71	27	42	42
	—	—	—	—	—	—

B.C.G. Vaccination is also available at the Local Chest Clinic for ascertained contacts of cases of tuberculosis and in certain other cases.





BOROUGH OF OSSETT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1956

# **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.**

**Year ended December 31st, 1956.**

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Public Health Committee:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the annual report on the work carried out by the department. The report, which is mainly statistical, gives details of the inspections and various improvements for the period ended 31st December, and the data concerning the refuse collection service for the period ended 31st March, 1957.

The number of animals killed in the Borough has increased considerably during the past year, and consequently the time spent on the inspection of meat has also increased.

The slum clearance programme continued to show progress during the year, re-housing of families from the first post-war clearance area had commenced, and a further area had been declared.

I would respectfully tender my sincere thanks to the Chairman, and members of the Public Health Committee for their help and understanding, to the Medical Officer of Health and officials of the Council for their advice and assistance, and finally to the staff of this department for loyal service to the Council and tactful administration of the duties delegated to them.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. W. MYCOCK,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

## HOUSING.

### New houses completed during year.

By the Corporation ... ..	62
By Private Enterprise ... ..	31
	<hr/>
	93
	<hr/>

### Register of Applications for Re-housing.

During the month of November, all applicants on the register were asked if they still desired to be re-housed, the purpose being to bring the list up-to-date and to ascertain the number of applicants on the list who were genuinely interested in obtaining improved accommodation. A total of 665 were circularised, and of these 401 returned the forms and expressed a desire to remain on the waiting list.

Set out below is an analysis of the waiting list at 31st December, 1956:—

	2 B.R.	3 B.R.	
Category A—Statutory overcrowding ... ..	2	40	
Category B—Moral overcrowding ... ..	27	30	
Category C—Lodgings ... ..	24	5	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total in priority groups ... ..	53	75	
Category E—General applications (No priority) ... ..	117	33	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	278
Category H—Bungalows ... ..			89
Category K—Living outside the Borough and			
(a) Working inside ... ..	16		
(b) Working outside ... ..	35		
	<hr/>		51
			<hr/>
Total applications			418
			<hr/>
Total applications, 31st December, 1955			702
			<hr/>

### Overcrowding.

Although the total number of new cases discovered during the year is higher than normal, the degree of overcrowding in the majority of these cases is slight, overcrowding resulting in the main from one of the children in the family attaining the age of ten.

The total number of cases outstanding is the lowest since the war.

Cases of overcrowding abated	...	49
New cases discovered during the year		28
Total cases outstanding 31/12/56	...	45
	involving	47 Families
	and	252 Persons

### Statistics—Housing.

No. of occupied dwelling houses in the district	...	...	4913
No. of back-to-back houses included in above	...	...	367
No. inspected under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	648
Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	1683
No. inspected and recorded under Housing (Consolidated) Regulations	...	...	97
Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	1683
No. considered unfit for habitation	...	...	97
No. not in all respects reasonably fit	...	...	551
No. of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action			25
Formal notices requiring defects to be remedied :			
Public Health Acts	...	...	38
No. remedied by owner	...	...	30
No. remedied by Local Authority in default of owner	...		2

### Sections 11 and 13, Housing Act, 1936 :

No. of representations made in respect of unfit houses	...	19
No. of demolition orders made	...	6
No. of houses demolished	...	30
No. of undertakings accepted	...	1
No. of persons displaced from individual unfit houses	...	120

### Part 3 of Housing Act, 1936 :

No. of clearance areas represented during year	...	1
No. of houses included in above	...	78
No. of persons to be displaced	...	206
No. of Compulsory Purchase orders made	...	1
No. of houses in clearance areas demolished	...	4
No. of persons displaced from houses in clearance areas		71



## GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION AND IMPROVEMENTS.

Remaining privies are widely scattered and either associated with unfit property or without available sewer. The remaining trough closets are at two schools.

### Closet Accommodation.

No. of privies with covered middens	...	...	...	...	33
No. of pail or tub closets	...	...	...	...	8
No. of waste water (tippler) closets	...	...	...	...	14
No. of trough closets	...	...	...	...	17
No. of water closets	...	...	...	...	5046

### Ashes Accommodation.

No. of dustbins	...	...	...	...	5324
No. of ashpits in connection with privies	...	...	...	...	21
No. of dustbins replaced	...	...	...	...	382

### Works of conversion, etc.

Privy to pail closet	...	...	...	...	1
Ashpits abolished or disused	...	...	...	...	7

### Classified Statement of Inspections.

Housing—Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	1683
Inspection of Council Houses	...	...	...	62
Visits re accumulations	...	...	...	3
Applicants for Council houses	...	...	...	207
Animals and Birds	...	...	...	1
Ashes accommodation	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	...	1
Boiler houses	...	...	...	10
Conversions	...	...	...	2
Diseases of Animals Act	...	...	...	35
Factories :—M.P.	...	...	...	26
N.M.P.	...	...	...	2
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	2
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	39
General food premises	...	...	...	39
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	13
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	8
Licenced premises	...	...	...	1
Meatshops	...	...	...	59
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	109
Mortuary	...	...	...	6
Offensive trade premises	...	...	...	3
Outworkers	...	...	...	2
Pet shops	...	...	...	4
Piggeries	...	...	...	5
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	5
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	237

Rodent Control—Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1269
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tents, vans and sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	324
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Vermin Rats and Mice :—Agricultural premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Business premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Corporation premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Total Inspections							4382
Interviews with Owners, etc.							344
							4726

### Drainage.

New drains inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
New drains smoke tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Existing drains—							
(a) Chemical tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(b) Colour tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
(c) Other tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

### Sanitary Improvements made and Defects remedied.

#### (a) Dwelling houses.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rendered free from dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sash cords renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New sinks fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water removed from cellars	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

#### (b) Water closets.

New pedestals provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Provided with sufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

#### (c) Drains.

Reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New gullies provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inspection chambers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

(d) **Factories.**

Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences abated...	1
Fire escapes provided ... ..	3

**Summary.**

Informal notices issued ... ..	120
Informal notices complied with ... ..	59
Statutory notices issued ... ..	38
Statutory notices complied with ... ..	32

**Prosecution.**

During the year two applications were made for nuisance orders to the Court, the first in respect of leaking roofs to fourteen houses in Pickersgill Street, and the second for repair of broken plaster and a leaking chimney stack at 13, Church Street. In the latter case the work was not completed until after the owner had again appeared before the magistrates for non-compliance with the order.

## FOOD SUPPLIES.

### Meat Inspection.

Number of licenced slaughterhouses: 5.

The total number of animals inspected shows a considerable increase over last year, the quality of those slaughtered within the Borough continuing to be good.

The following table gives details of carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:—

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ... ..	1451	176	150	3713	3184	Nil
Number inspected ... ..	1441	176	150	3713	3184	Nil
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticeri.</b>						
Whole carcases condemned	—	1	—	—	4	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	55	9	—	16	31	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticeri ... ..	6.58	5.68	—	.50	1.19	—
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>						
Whole carcase condemned	1	2	—	—	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	61	17	—	—	26	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	7.42	10.8	—	—	.95	—
<b>Cysticercosis.</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	11	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	11	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—



Set out below are details of animals and organs found to be unfit:—

						Tuberculosis.	Other causes.
<b>Carcases and all organs</b>							
Bovine (Cows)	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Bovine (Others—excluding Calves)						1	—
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
<b>Part Carcases</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.	117 lbs.
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	—	26 lbs.
<b>Heads and Tongues</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	35	12
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	29	—
<b>Lungs</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	46	13
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	4	18
<b>Livers</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	22	67
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	—	9
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	—	14
<b>Mesentry</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
<b>Spleens</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
<b>Kidneys</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
<b>Hearts</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	3	11
<b>Udders</b>							
Bovine	...	...	...	...	...	—	6

Eleven carcasses were held in cold store for the required period after being found to be affected with *Cysticercus bovis*.

### Disposal of unsound meat.

Small quantities of unsound meat are destroyed by burning. Larger quantities, after staining, are sold to waste recovery merchants, the proceeds of the sale being retained by the butcher.

## Other Foods.

It was not found necessary to seize any foodstuffs during the year, and the following unfit articles were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:—

					Tins or Containers	Weight	
						lbs.	ozs.
<b>Tinned Food</b>							
Beverages	...	...	...	...	2	—	8
Fish	...	...	...	...	3	—	14½
Fruit	...	...	...	...	31	34	15½
Meat	...	...	...	...	90	568	10½
Milk	...	...	...	...	1	—	8
Soup	...	...	...	...	4	3	8
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	73	70	10
<b>Other Foods</b>							
Cereals	...	...	...	...		10	8
Cheese	...	...	...	...		1	8
Preserves	...	...	...	...		1	—
Sauce	...	...	...	...		1	14
					204	694	8½

## Food Hygiene Regulations, 1956.

A start was made during the year on the inspection of shops within the district. Following each inspection, a notice giving the extent by which the premises fell short of the Regulations was sent to the occupier.

Thirty-five inspections of food premises were made for the purposes of the Regulations, and twenty-eight notices were sent to the occupiers.

## Milk.

Licences issued during the year include the following:—

Pasteurised and T.T.	...	...	...	18
Pasteurised (only)	...	...	...	1
Supplementary Past. and T.T.	...	...	...	4
Sterilised	...	...	...	36
Supplementary Sterilised	...	...	...	1
				—
				60
				—

**DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.**

Disinfection of dwelling houses after cases of:—

Scarlet Fever      ...      2

Disinfestation of dwelling houses for:—

Bed Bugs      ...      8

**ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.**

No. of chimneys in the district	...	30
No. of smoke observations	...    ...	10
No. of nuisances	...    ...    ...	3
No. of prosecutions	...    ...    ...	1

Following the application to the Court for a nuisance order, the main flue at the mill was cleaned and repaired. This resulted in a marked reduction in the emission of smoke from the chimney.

**Colliery Spoilbanks.**

The nuisance caused by the burying spoilbanks at Roundwood and Shawcross collieries has been considerably less than during previous years, the work carried out by the National Coal Board having been successful in at least reducing the rate of burning.

**INFESTATION CONTROL—RATS AND MICE.**

**Sewer Control.**

Routine treatments have been carried out and little infestation was revealed.

**Surface Control.**

The following routine treatment of Corporation properties was carried out during the year:—

				Treatments
Spa Sewage Works	...	...	...	1
Healey Sewage Works	...	...	...	1
Low Laithes Refuse Tip	...	...	...	2
Spa Refuse Tip	...	...	...	2

Other premises treated were as follows:—

		Rats		Mice	
		First Treatment	Re-Treatment	First Treatment	Re-Treatment
Dwelling houses	...	28	—	34	1
Business premises	...	6	—	1	—
Other premises	...	—	—	1	—
		—	—	—	—
		34	—	36	1
		—	—	—	—

Warfarin has again been the principal material used, producing good results. Treatment of the tip has been by a combination of gassing and baiting with warfarin.

### FACTORIES.

One hundred and thirty-one visits were paid to factories during the year, and the following defects found and remedied:—

	Found	Remedied
Unsuitable sanitary accommodation ...	1	—
Inefficient means of escape in case of fire ...	3	3

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

#### Staff.

Employees engaged in refuse collection and disposal include the following:—

Loaders	...	10 (including ganger)
Drivers	...	3
Paper Baler	...	1

Sickness and absenteeism for the past three years are shown below. Twelve members are in the sickness payment scheme.

	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
Absenteeism (Man hours) ...	634	668	456 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sickness and Injuries ...	2,470	1,448	1,654
	<u>3,104</u>	<u>2,116</u>	<u>2,110<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></u>

The collection period during the year under review was the most regular that has been attained for some time. Whilst a mild winter helped to some extent, the collection staff are to be congratulated on the service which they have given during the year.



## Transport.

Following the experience during the winter of 1955/56 when the 7 cubic yard vehicles were found to be too small to deal with the volume of refuse arising in certain areas of the town, particularly during cold weather, the oldest vehicle was replaced by a 12 cubic yard diesel engined vehicle. The increased carrying capacity has helped in maintaining a regular collection by reducing the time spent in trimming the loads and by the reduced number of journeys to the tip.

The result of changing to a diesel engine will be more easily judged in future years when age affects the engine and repairs become necessary, but up to the end of the financial year the fuel costs for this vehicle have been less than that of the smaller capacity petrol engined vehicles.

## Disposal.

Disposal has been carried out at the site adjoining Low Laithes Lane, and as an experiment in the large sludge bed at Spa Sewage works, the aim being to render it possible at a future date to excavate some of the tipped material and make more workable beds on the same site..

The whole of the levelling has been carried out mechanically.

## Salvage.

Baling of paper is carried out by an electrically operated press. Restrictions on the total amount of paper which will be accepted by the mills has reduced the total weight sold during the year.

Details of recovered materials are as follows:—

				Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Waste Paper	...	...	...	177	—	3	—
Rags and Bagging	...	...	...	1	9	1	—
Scrap Metal	...	...	...	17	6	3	17
Kitchen Waste	...	...	...	40	5	3	—
				—	—	—	—
				236	2	2	17
				—	—	—	—

Total gross income ... £1,807 5s. 3d.

## Costs (Collection and Disposal).

					£
Wages, Insurance and Superannuation	...				7,164
Haulage	...	...	...	...	912
Licences, Insurance, Taxes	...	...	...		297
Implements and Materials	...	...	...		139
Depreciation of vehicles	}	five yearly			662
Depreciation of paper press					
Depot maintenance	...	...	...	...	435
Gross Costs					9,609
Income from Rents, Salvage, etc.					2,089
Nett Cost					£7,520

Paid Sickness	...	...	...	...	£172 17s. 9d.
Total estimated tonnage for the year					4,173 tons
Cost per ton (nett)	...	...	...		£1 16s. 0d.
Nett cost per 1,000 premises	...				£1319 0s. 0d.
Nett cost per premise per week	...				6.2d.
Cost per 1,000 population	...	...			£518 12s. 5d.

## Provision of Dustbins.

Total cost for the year	...	...	...	£601 0s. 0d.
Cost per house per year	...	...		2s. 5d.

## Cesspool Emptying.

Total cost for the year	...	...	...	£65 0s. 0d.
Number of cesspools	...	...	...	8
Cost per cesspool per annum	...	...		£8 2s. 6d.



